

Amendments to the Drawings

None

Remarks

The present invention is directed to a truing tool that is characterized by an essentially cylindrical gear wheel having an abrasive coating on the surface that is active during truing to profile the flanks of the grinding worm, and an essentially cylindrical roll having an abrasive coating on the circumferential surface to adapt the diameter of the addendum circle of the grinding worm, with the gear wheel and the roll being axial- and torsion-resistantly connectable to the work piece spindle of the machine.

The current status of the claims is as follows:

1. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Stollberg (US 5,857,896) in view of Thyssen (US 6,290,574).

The rejection of claims 1-3 as anticipated by, or in the alternative, as obvious over Stollberg (US 5,857,896) in view of Thyssen (US 6,290,574) is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Stollberg teaches a combination gear grinding and honing machine wherein a gear 26 is positioned on a spindle along with two toothed dressing wheels 27, 28 axially spaced with respect to the workpiece as shown in Figure 2. Dressing wheel 28 is a rough dressing wheel and dressing wheel 27 is a fine profiling (smoothing) wheel (see column 2, lines 17-27).

Thyssen teaches a method of centering a dressing tool in the thread of a grinding worm. A dressing tool 27 is first brought into contact with the circumference of a grinding worm (the pre-centering step), the contact being signaled by an acoustic sensor, to determine the thread gap center of the grinding worm (column 2, lines 40-55). The second step (precision centering) the rotating dressing disc is fed into the thread gap center (column 3, lines 11-24).

The dressing wheels 27, 28 of Stollberg are both toothed tools which dress the flank surface of the grinding worm and do not, and cannot, remove material from the top surface of the thread of the grinding worm in order to modify the diameter of the grinding worm. Applicant most certainly argues that dressing wheel 28 is not a roll in that the dressing wheel 28 is a toothed tool in the form of a gear, the teeth of which comprise hard particles for dressing the profile surface of the grinding thread. A dressing roll has no teeth and the position taken by the Examiner that dressing wheel 28 of Stollberg is a dressing roll is, respectfully, incorrect.

Thyssen fails to provide the deficiencies noted above with respect to Stollberg. While Thyssen does show varying types of dressing tools, there is no teaching of utilizing a roll to modify the diameter of a grinding worm and there is no suggestion to combine a dressing roll with a gear-like dressing tool in the manner of Applicant's claim 1. Applicant does not dispute there are different forms of dressing tools, but claim 1 is not directed to merely different tools. The main focus of Thyssen is a method to center a dressing tool into a thread gap of a grinding worm. There is nothing in Thyssen directed to modifying the diameter of a grinding worm and there is no disclosure of a dressing roll. The most that the skilled artisan could reasonable expect from a combination of Stollberg with Thyssen, assuming some motivation to combine, would be a manner to engage the dressing tools of Stollberg with a grinding worm.

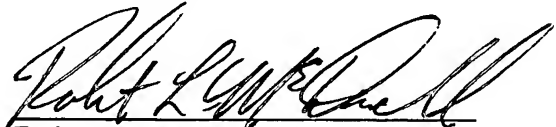
Conclusion

Stollberg fails to anticipate the claimed invention. The inclusion of Thyssen also fails to provide a sufficient teaching to result in the claimed invention being obvious. The rejection of claims 1-3 as anticipated by, or in the alternative, as obvious over Stollberg in view of Thyssen is improper and withdrawal is respectfully requested. A prompt Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any questions, she is cordially invited to telephone Applicant's Agent at (585) 461-8071. Should any additional fees be required in order that this paper, or any attachments hereto, be deemed a complete and timely response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 07-1425 for any such fees.

Respectfully submitted,

THE GLEASON WORKS



Robert L. McDowell

Reg. No. 34,080

Patent Agent

Tel.: 585-461-8071

Fax: 585-461-4092

E-mail: Rmcdowell@gleason.com

The Gleason Works
1000 University Avenue
P.O. Box 22970
Rochester, New York 14692-2970

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any papers referred to as being accompanying, enclosed, attached, or submitted herewith) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on March 15, 2006
(Date of Deposit)

by Robert L. McDowell
(Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative)


(Signature)

March 15, 2006
(Date of Signature)